

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 TAR-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EUR-25 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10

NSAE-00 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PRS-01 PA-03 L-03 RSR-01 /191 W

----- 085725

O 291005 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4934

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8248

PASS SECRETARY BUTZ AND SECRETARY DENT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR ETRD JA US

SUBJ: FONMIN OHIRA REQUEST FOR FAIR CONSIDERATION BY

USG - SOYBEANS

REF TOKYO 8165

1. DURING MY COURTESY CALL AFTERNOON JUNE 28 FONMIN OHIRA RAISED SUBJECT OF SOYBEAN AND COTTONSEED EMBARGO. NOTING THAT TSURUMI HAD ALREADY SPOKEN TO ME ON THAT SAME SUBJECT AT NOON (TOKYO 8165), OHIRA REQUESTED THAT I TRANSMIT TO USG FORMAL GOJ REQUEST THAT JAPAN BE ACCORDED FAIR CONSIDERATION IN DECISION ON ALLOCATION OF SOYBEANS, BOTH AS TRADITIONAL BEST CUSTOMER AND AS FRIEND OF UNITED STATES. I GAVE ASSURANCE THAT FULL CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN JAPAN'S REQUIREMENTS IN ARRIVING AT EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE SOYBEAN SUPPLY AND READ WIRE-SERVICE REPORT OF SECRETARY BUTZ PRESS STATEMENT, DRAWING ATTENTION TO TWO REFERENCES TO JAPAN BY NAME. I ALSO EXPLAINED THAT RESTRICTIONS ARE

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UNAVOIDABLE AT LEAST TEMPORARILY IN VIEW OF REPORTS
OVER WEEKEND WHICH DISCLOSED THAT EXISTING CONTRACTS
FAR EXCEED AVAILABLE SUPPLY OF SOYBEANS BUT CITED
POSITIVE TONE OF SECRETARY BUTZ FORECAST OF RECORD
HARVEST EXPECTED THIS FALL ON BASIS OF CROP IN GROUND.
IN CONCLUSION I PROMISED TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH ABOUT
ALLOCATION SYSTEM TO BE ANNOUNCED EARLY NEXT WEEK, AND
HOW IT WOULD WORK.

2. IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD I MET VICE- MIN HOGEN WHO HAD ASKED
TO SEE ME EARLIER TO DISCUSS SEVERAL OTHER SUBJECTS
(TOKYO 8171 AND TOKYO 8173). HOGEN ALSO MADE STRONG
REQUEST THAT USG LOOSEN EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON SOYBEANS
AND COTTONSEED TO REFLECT JAPAN' S POSITION AS TRADITIONAL
CUSTOMER AND BEST MARKET FOR AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS , NOTING THAT ENORMOUS CHANGE IN CONSUMPTION
PATTERN NOW FINDS JAPAN 60 PERCENT DEPENDENT ON US FOR
AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS. IN RESPONSE, I REVIEWED
SECRETARY BUTZ PRESS STATEMENT, CALLING PARTICULAR
ATTENTION TO HIS REFERENCE TO NEED TO PROTECT JAPAN
(BY NAME) AND OTHER LEADING CUSTOMERS OF AMERICAN
SOYBEANS AS WELL AS AMERICAN CONSUMERS AND POULTRY
AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AGAINST QTE INVASION OF NEW CUSTOMERS
UNQTE. HOGEN EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION, BUT AGAIN
URGED FAIR CONSIDERATION BY US OF JAPAN' S NEEDS.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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